

Fentanyl-Laced Heroin

Philadelphia Fire Department EMS Division



Captain Richard Bossert MS, NREMT-P

Philadelphia City Background

1.5 Million People
(Close to 2 in day)

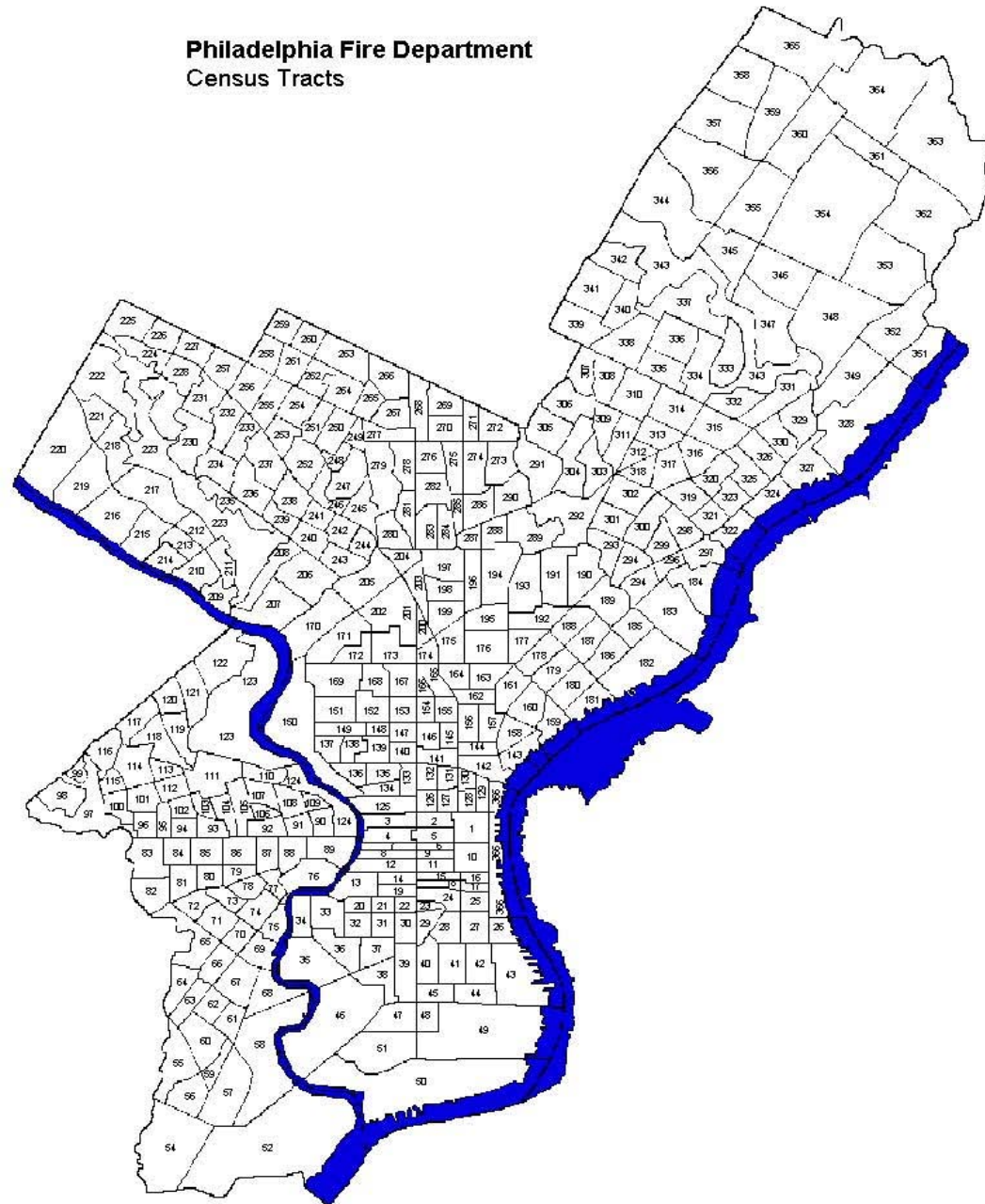
135 Square Miles

City of Neighborhoods

Very Diverse
(Economically)
(Culturally)

Broken up in
Census Tracts

Philadelphia Fire Department
Census Tracts



PFD Background Information



45 Ambulances (Not all 24/7)

36 ALS / 9 BLS

89 BLS 1st Responders

250 Paramedics, 1300 EMT's

8 Trauma Centers, 17 Hospitals



Here We Go Again!!!

- 1996 - Scopolamine
- 2006 – Fentanyl
- What's Next???

Drug Review

Scopolamine:

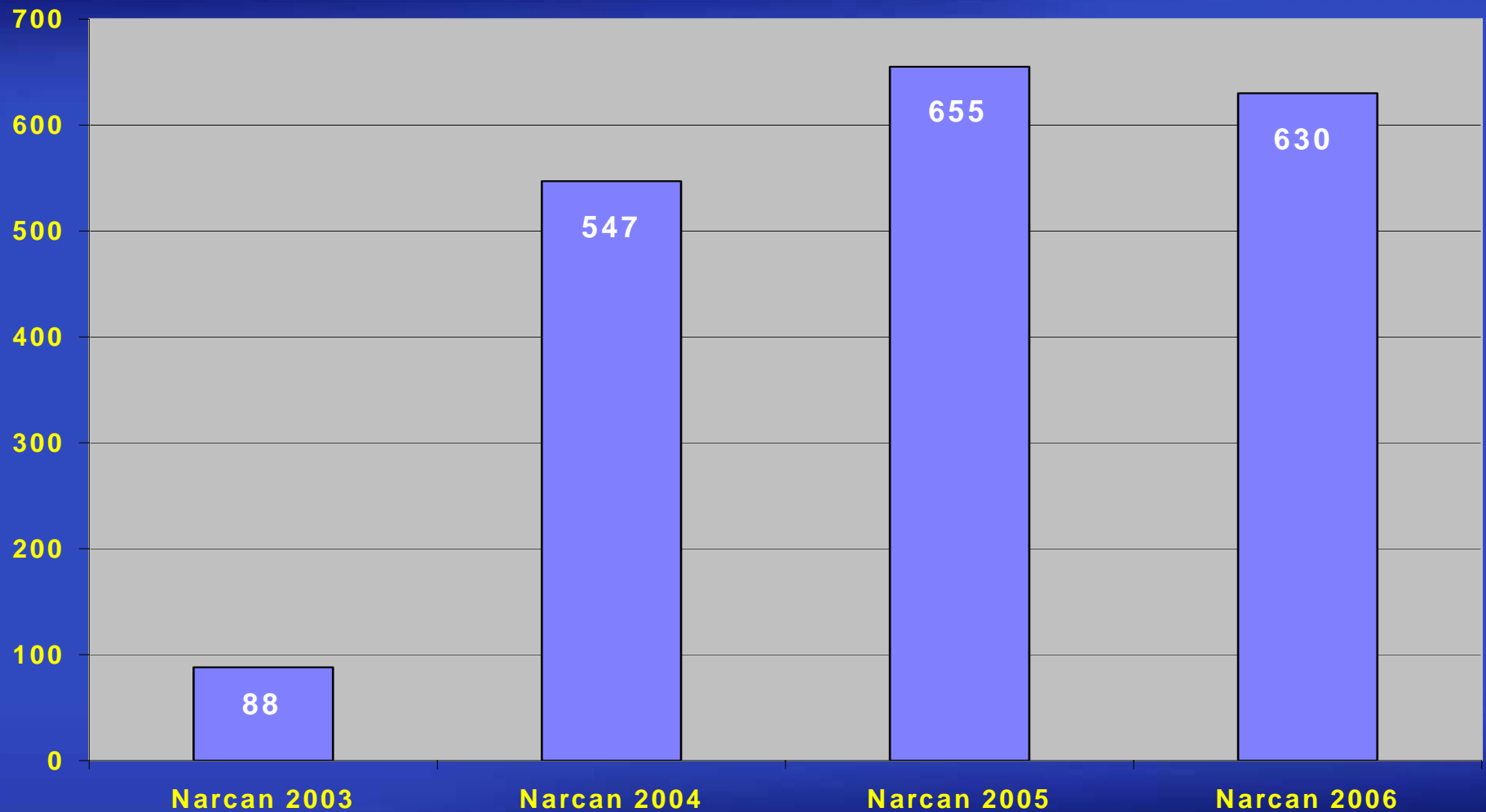
Used as a depressant of the central nervous system. When combined with morphine, it produces a tranquilized state known as twilight sleep and amnesia. Date Rape Drug.

Drug Review

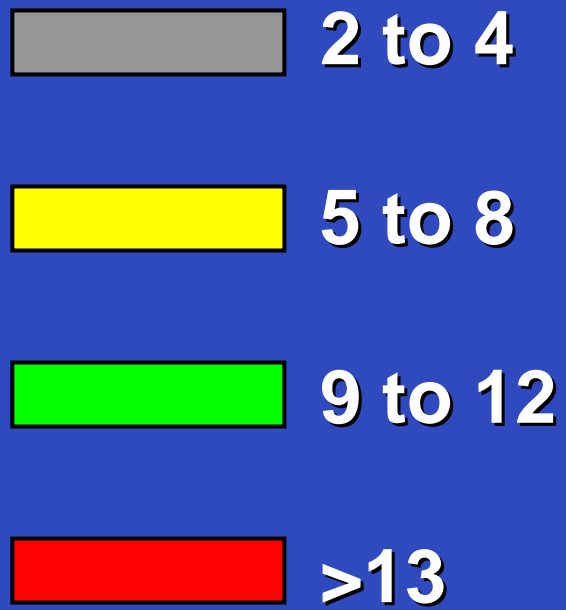
Fentanyl:

An analgesic, first synthesized in Belgium in the late 1950s, with a potency of about 80 times that of morphine. It was introduced into medical practice in the 1960s as an intravenous anesthetic. Fentanyl is a Schedule II Narcotic.

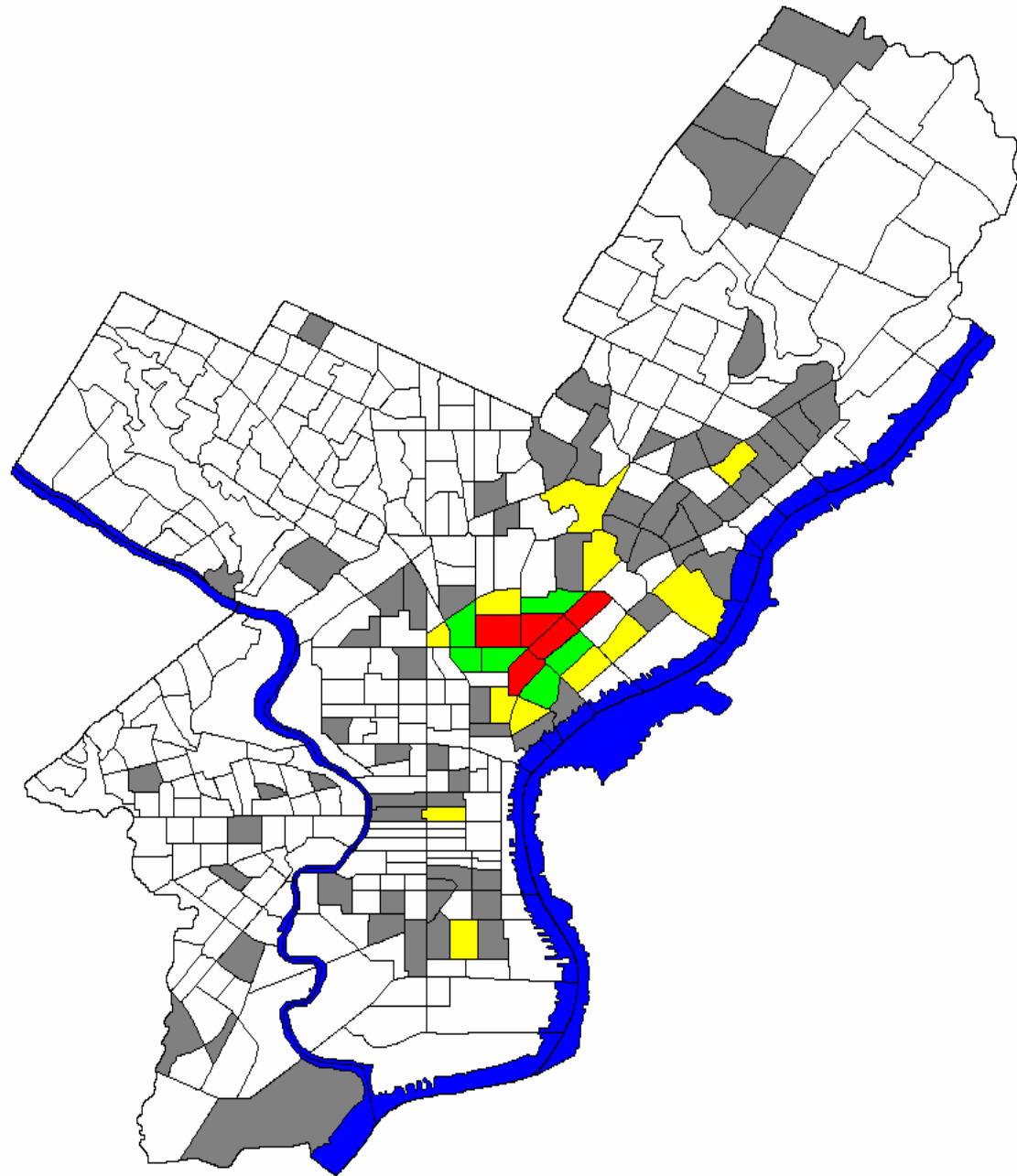
Narcan Use in Philadelphia



Narcan Use 2006



Max 35



Recent Incidents Statistics

- From January 1 to July 24
 - 754 Cardiac Arrest
 - 112 Received Narcan (14.9%)
Narcotic Overdose

Recent Incidents

Statistics

- From June 30 to July 24
 - 184 Cardiac Arrest
 - 31 Received Narcan (16.8%)
Narcotic Overdose
- Note: An increase of 2%*

Recent Incidents

July 27th Case Review

- **3 Incidents (All Drug Related)**
 - ***2 Cardiac Arrest***
 - ***1 Unconscious***

Recent Incidents

July 27th Case Review

- **3 Incidents (All Drug Related)**
 - ***Common Factors***
 - ***2 were within blocks of each other***
 - ***All Males***
 - ***All Young Adults***
 - ***All found with Needle still in arm
(still had drug left in Needle)***

General Information

1) “**Bad**” is “**Good**”

2) Year ago a Medic Unit would see maybe ONE narcotic overdose a shift. Now they can see FOUR, FIVE, SIX, or MORE a shift



Paramedic Interview Video





questions?